

# Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

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## WITHIN THE WEEK

In Europe, the conflict has ceased. But it is for time to tell whether we have won a war. There can be no enduring victory unless and until we begin to take the 1st stumbling steps toward our goal of living for and with each other.

If, from this bitter, barren aftermath there emerges a new vision of the brotherhood of man, a broader concept of international unity and a truer definition of human liberty, then the ages will argue that the price we have paid was not too great.

There has ever been blood upon the scroll of history. Is ours but a bigger blot?

Other men have turned from wastes of war to paths of peace, but their footsteps provide no pattern for our time. The destruction and chaos that confront us outweigh human comprehension. A good deal has been said and written of the political and economic problems that confront us in Europe. But they are as nothing in comparison with the social upheaval.

All over the continent, Starvation and Disease vie with each other in the grim game of hoarding hostages. Sanitation facilities have been wrecked. Transportation and communication have broken down, so that the distribution of even a minimum of relief is almost hopelessly handicapped. Multiplied millions wander home-

less and hopeless over the war-pocked lands. Many will never again know the simplest security. The brand of the nomad is upon them.

These millions are not only unemployed, but many have become unemployable. Dazed and defeated, they have been stripped of every civilizing instinct. In a few brief yrs they have reverted almost to the status of the primitive tribes from whence their ancestry traces. It is a stunning example of Evolution in reverse gear, and speeded to the tempo of our time. Here is the prime problem that no one mentions—the human problem that confounds all economic formulae. Yet somehow, in some way, it must be met and mastered.

### OCCUPATION OF GERMANY:

We foresee that the division of Germany into separate zones, and the occupation of these zones by independent military forces will result in tensions that will become increasingly apparent a few mo's hence. The sections of Germany which normally produce an agricultural surplus are now under Russian control. In pre-war economy these surpluses were transported to industrial areas. Agriculture is certain to recover more rapidly than industry, but the Russian attitude on surplus distribution is yet to be determined.



### SHIFTING SANDS

One phase of the German surrender which has been little noted is the fact that we now have access to such war materiel as Nazis may have accumulated, and to the productive facilities that remain intact. What this may amount to is problematical, but it is in any case a factor with which to reckon. There is also the matter of German ships which, including submersible craft, may total considerable tonnage. . . There's no point in deluding ourselves that reconversion is going to be smooth and orderly. The entire control system is sagging badly and disintegration will be rapid in coming wks. War contracts will be terminated more rapidly, and to a greater extent than now publicly talked. (Note progress made in the Pacific in the past year on about 40% of our total war production.) These precipitous contract cancellations will undoubtedly result in confusion and temporary unemployment in some defense areas.



FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED

# Quote

"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED"

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

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"Our victory is but half-won. . . When the last Japanese division has surrendered unconditionally, then only will our fighting job be done."  
—PRES HARRY S TRUMAN, in a VE Proclamation.

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"Let us have no part in the profitless quarrels. . . as to what country, what service, won the European war. Every man, every woman, of every nation here represented has served according to his or her ability, and the efforts of each have contributed to the outcome. . . It is my special privilege. . . to commend each of you. . . Tho these words are feeble they come from the bottom of a heart overflowing with pride in your loyal service and admiration for you as warriors."—GEN DWIGHT D EISENHOWER, in a Victory Order of The Day.

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"First, let us remember those who will not come back."—King GEO VI, in a Victory message from Buckingham Palace.

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"Advance Britannia! Long live the cause of freedom. God save the King!"—Prime Minister WINSTON CHURCHILL, concluding a VE-Day message.

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"The war is won. Victory of the Allied Nations is the victory of France."—GEN CHAS DEGAULLE, in a message to the French people.

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"There are no VE-day festivities for the Poles, and there will be none until Poles abroad are able to return to a free and independent Poland."—From a statement issued by the Polish Press Bureau, in London.

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"He has done his work well as he was brought up to do."—Mrs J D EISENHOWER, 83-yr-old mother of Gen DWIGHT D EISENHOWER, commenting on her son's contribution to Allied victory in Europe.

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"Did I do so badly?"—Russian girl who sang for released U S prisoners of war at Odessa, misunderstanding that she was receiving the highest form of American Army applause when the men whistled and stamped their feet.

"MAY WE

# Quote

YOU ON THAT?"

"We are masters in our own home again."—Queen WILHELMINA of the Netherlands, addressing her people by radio from home soil for the first time in 5 years.

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"The greater the power any state commands, the heavier the responsibility to wield that power with consideration for others."—ANTHONY EDEN, British Foreign Secretary.

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"Some people are happy and some people ain't. It depends where you got someone fighting." — 11-yr-old school boy's philosophical comment on the V-E proclamation.

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"Lift up your hearts for we are coming."—Prime Minister WINSTON CHURCHILL, in special V-E message broadcast to people of the British empire in the far east yet under Japanese control.

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"Let them stay. It's probably the first time they've ever seen a colonel with the hell knocked out of him."—Col CHAS F COATES, wounded by flying shrapnel, announced that men of his battalion could stick around and watch the surgery, when a medical officer tried to chase them away.

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"I will light a bonfire in the garden and spend the rest of the day waistcoat-burning."—ROBERT LYND, British editor and essayist, announcing his plans for celebrating VE-Day. The waistcoat is all that remains of a suit which LYND pledged to wear till the war's end at the same time that HITLER, back in '39, announced that he was putting on his military coat and would not take it off until the war be won.

"I felt like getting down on my knees and praying."—Gen'l MARK W CLARK, in a letter to his wife, on eve of German surrender in Italy.

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"We never really hated our fellow countrymen who held different opinions."—Fritt Folk, Norwegian quilsling newspaper.

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"I am browned off, fed up, burnt up and put out."—DREW MIDDLETON, N Y Times correspondent at Supreme Hdq in Paris, frothing over Associated Press's 24-hr scoop on the German surrender story.

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"A very nice country you have there."—German, captured by the 1st Division, explained that the same division had captured him 2 yrs ago in N Africa and sent him to the U S where he was held until he was returned to Germany in a prisoner exchange.

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"In our country the whole people are brought up in the spirit and faith and in devotion to the cause of setting up a solid organization of internat'l security."—Foreign Com-misar VYACHESLAV MOLOTOV, of Russia.

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"People take them, but they're a little choosy. They peck around until they find their own brand."—RAY COX, cafe owner of Albany, Ore, weary of stretching his weekly cigaret quota, tossed all of them in bowl marked "Free—Take one."

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"The Senator figured he'd be allowed to keep about \$35,000. He's having such a good time reading his 4692 congratulatory messages that I haven't the heart to tell him differently."—Senator CHANDLER's sec'y, reporting that the new baseball commissioner will have to pay \$26,865 income tax on his \$50,000 salary.

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"If a member of this committee cannot keep a military secret given the committee at its request by military leaders, he ought to quit."—Rep MAY, chairman of the house military affairs committee, angered that several members of the group disclosed army demobilization plans given to the committee in secret.

"It may be easier next fall to buy a refrigerator than a shirt."—Spokesman for WPB, emphasizing coming shortage of textiles.

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"There's not enough young fellows willing to go to work."—Comment of a 100-yr-old Civil War vet, applying to USES at Salt Lake City for a job at the naval supply depot.

#### Steady!

"WANTED: Drivers with tractors to pull Chicago to Rockford. Steady."—Classified ad in *Chicago Tribune*.

"You mean I need a passport to go to Boston?"—Boston-bound woman who attached herself to the wrong ticket line-up at LaGuardia airport, and was asked to open her baggage and show her passport.

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"I want to raise the roof so I can stand up straight in the bathtub."—Homeowner's request for housing alterations, rec'd by Municipal Bldg Inspector WARREN McDONALD, of Portland, Me.

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"Now, I will have to look around for a wife."—FRED FULD, 23-yr-old ex-serviceman, 1st N Y war veteran to get priorities to build his own home under GI Bill of Rights.

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"Do all children go through this?"—Mrs GLADYS O'BRIEN, mother of MGM juvenile star MARGARET O'BRIEN, bemoaning her daughter's choice of clothing—sweaters and skirts.

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"The manner in which many people ride nowadays is a disgrace to Britain. . . I counted 30 riders without hats!"—Sir WALTER GILBEY, leading British sportsman, who died recently.

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"If I were running things I would stop this American supply of film drivel."—J B PRIESTLEY, British author, who asserted in London that most of our cinema creations are "trash meant for school children in middle west."

"Damn slow and not cheap!"—Young lieutenant, asked by a correspondent how the war in the Pacific was progressing.

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"That proves he loves me!"—Mrs ROOSEVELT POSEY, paying \$25 fine imposed on her husband who struck another woman, thinking it was his wife.

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"We all gotta eat."—Comment of two regular patrons of a Louisville restaurant who donned aprons and served 150 hungry diners when the two waiters walked out. They rec'd 65¢ in tips.

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"For my money you are all just a bunch of press agents, and I will talk to you as such."—Rep F EDW HEBERT, of La, speaking as honor guest of hightoned American Public Relations Ass'n, in Washington.

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"Sometimes I am tempted but I do not fail."—LADY ASTOR, ardent dry mbr of the British House of Commons, asked by the Home Sec'y to have just one small snifter on VE-Day.

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"We don't throw them away that big where I came from. Here, have one on me."—A brigadier-gen'l, offering cigar to Sgt RICHARD SPATZ, who had tossed his freshly-lighted one away as the gen'l approached.

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"I was serving pancake pies most of the time!"—RICHARD K SCHWARTZ, assigned to a landing ship as a baker, wailing over his baking failures incurred when the ship goes into action.

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"Poverty is a great thing for an artist. We are in danger of making things too easy for the young generation. Today in America there are kind people willing to help, but they help too lavishly."—MISCHA ELMAN, Russian-born violinist.

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"We have reserved this corner for her 14 yrs from now and it will be in big type if she makes it."—Local newspaper of Danville, Pa, featuring 86-yr-old woman victory gardener whose one wish is to reach 100.

"I'm sure Louise will do all right when we settle down in our own home."—S/Sgt PIERRE JREYSEN, Army cook, who has yet to taste his new wife's cooking.

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"Lots for Sale—neighbors noisy, like to visit nights; beautiful view; clean, fresh air—when the wind is right. Inquire rear area."—Sign posted over an American foxhole under sniper fire on Cebu Island.

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"I'm a bus driver and I'm tired of having people say, 'Here comes Gen'l Delay again.'"—REMI C DELAIE, asking a Seattle court to change his name to DeLoy, "the way it is properly pronounced."

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"In my time a girl would buy 50c stockings and show about a cent's worth of them. Now she buys \$4 stockings and shows about \$6 worth."—Miss AMANDA BRIDGES, on her 92nd birthday. (Quoted in *This Wk*).

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"Ladies, you ought to see us on horseback."—A Saudi Arabian conference delegate, dressed in flowing robes and sheik headgear, overhearing two young bobby-soxers remark, "Whee, aren't they just too lovely!"



#### Droke House

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## COLUMNIST'S COLUMN

Food and Films  
HAROLD HEFFERNAN

A navy lieutenant visited a Hollywood studio the other day and confessed to a horrified guide that he had never heard of Ingrid Bergman, Lauren Bacall, or Jennifer Jones. He still thought of Shirley Temple as a curly-headed moppet.

The lieutenant, who was recently in command of a gun crew on an oil tanker, had been at sea for 32 mo's. He didn't even know about Frank Sinatra. His favorites were Joan Crawford and Ginger Rogers.

Most of our servicemen, it should be said in passing, see new American movies long before the films are released here. However, the lieutenant's plight brings a rather startling idea to mind. We have developed in recent yrs many stars who are not, as we like to think, world-famous at all.

For instance, the annual audience of 3 billion Russians who used to see movies before the war does not know Van Johnson, Betty Hutton or June Allyson. The British are almost as badly off for Hollywood inspiration. The average Londoner or Yorkshireman clings to notions of Edw G Robinson, Chicago and jazz when he conjures visions of America. The Dutch, Portuguese, French, Danes and Finns—not to mention the Germans, Austrians and Japanese—have still to be introduced to our new stars.

V-Day will fetch peace, food and Technicolor films to Europe. The army and navy have learned not to discount the morale-building value of entertainment for people who are in trouble.—Abridged from a dispatch by NORTH AMERICAN NEWSPAPER ALLIANCE.

### ADAPTABILITY

Make plans ahead but don't make them in cast iron.—*Atlantic Log.*

### CENSORSHIP

Just about the time our military censors in Paris got so they could take the unfamiliar word SWALK in their stride, interpreting it correctly as "Sealed With a Loving Kiss," along came the new fad for incongruously injecting the names of European countries. Thus HOLLAND is deciphered, "Hoping Our Love Lasts and Never Dies," ITALY is "I Trust and Love You."

### DEMOCRACY—Tyranny

Democracy is steel, and malleable, and can bend, but it does not break. Tyranny is a base dull metal like unrefined iron.—STRUTHERS BURT, "Tell The Men," *Ladies Home Jnl*, 4-'45.

### HAZARD—Mental

A golfer invariably foozled his drive from a certain tee just beyond which there was a slight gully, over the brow of a hill. As he stepped up to the tee, this particular day, he remarked to his caddy: "Well, here's where I get into trouble in that gully."

The caddy replied, "You won't have any trouble with the gully today because they filled it up last wk." The player made a beautiful drive—but, when he got over the brow of the hill he found the gully still in the same old place. He said to the caddy: "I thought you told me this gully had been filled up." To which the caddy replied, "I did—because if I had not, you would never have crossed it."—BOYD M OGELSEY, *Provident Notes*.

### HOMEMAKING

A soldier's homemaking instinct is never vanquished. You can see 'em carrying an old feather bed or a dented skillet through the rubble of some shattered German town, as if they were furnishing a bungalow.—Lt Col HARLAN MILLER, "The Man Next Door," *Better Homes and Gardens*, 5-'45.

### INGENUITY

This is a low trick, but a new high in ingenuity: A thief stole an army allotment check from a mailbox. He went to the nearest Red Cross blood

donor center and gave a pint of blood using the name on the check. With the Red Cross honor card in his hand he had no difficulty cashing the stolen check.—*Speaking Freely*, bulletin of COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRACY.

### They DO say . . .

Publishers aren't too jubilant over results of survey by Book Mfgs Inst, indicating half of American people read less than a book a yr. . . Writing in *American Druggist*, JOHN ROHLF, associate editor of *Farm Journal*, debunks wonder insecticide, DDT; points out it kills many beneficial insects and birds as well as pests. Much testing must be done before it finds place in agriculture. . . "We won't fire at a crisis until we see whites of its eyes," asserted ERWIN D CANHAM, editor, *Christian Science Monitor*, refusing to get excited over early developments at San Francisco conference. . . It started as a gag, but there's now serious talk of a book to be titled *Benton & Benton*. Text by WM H BENTON, of U of Chicago; illustrations by THOS BENTON. . . Around Chicago they're telling of a woman who, noting the new MARSHALL FIELD book, *Freedom is More Than a Word*, observed, "Oh—he must have been named for the store!"

### INGENUITY

In Reading, Pa, Sup't Jacobs of the Reading Hospital, has developed the gift technique for sympathetic friends with a guest card. This card entitles any friend of a sick person to pay for one day of the patient's hospital bill, instead of flowers. Card del'd to the patient states: "This card indicates that you are my guest in the Reading Hospital for the day. I wish you a speedy recovery."—*Hospital Topics and Buyer*.

### LABOR—Strikes

There were more labor disputes in the U S in '44 than in any previous yr. There were 5000 strikes, against 3,752 in '43. Previous high: 4,740 in '37.—A bulletin issued by ALEXANDER HAMILTON INSTITUTE.



**LANGUAGE—Military**

Stay-at-homes had better be plugging up on the new GI vocabulary. The English language has taken a swift spurt forward.

You get a thing "firmed up" when it's all in working order. When a date's broken, it's "scrubbed off." When you've taken every precaution you've "double banked." To start, is to "get cracking." A good reputation is a "good file." Fine quarters are "silver foxholes." Special attention is "plush attention." "Roning" is remaining over night, from the military abbreviation, RON. "Flack happy" and "goofing off," need no explanation.—*Book-of-the-Month Club News*.

**LAZINESS**

Too many young men are looking for jobs selling handkerchiefs to those who are earning a living by the sweat of their brow.—*North-western National News*.

**LEISURE—Improvement**

There is no such thing as being "too busy." It is seldom that one cannot make a start—in spare moments if need be.

When a person spends his spare moments developing a talent he gives a striking demonstration of his confidence in his talent and in God's willingness to use it. We can imagine God looking at such a man and saying, "Now there's a fellow who must mean what he says about wanting to do this type of work. Guess I'll have to look into the matter and see what he and I can do together." — MARY McLEOD, "Those Golden Spare Moments," *Good Business*, 5-45.

**MARRIED LIFE**

A Reno divorce lawyer said: "Married couples' quarrels are nearly always foolish and yet these foolish quarrels often lead to divorce. An unemployed husband and his wife were arrested for disturbing the peace. The husband said it was the worst squabble they had ever had and that they had agreed to separate. Asked the subject of the dispute, he replied: 'How we'd invest our money if we ever got any.'"  
—FR JOHN A TOOMEY, "Parade," *America*, 4-21-45.

**POSTWAR—Plans**

We are talking too much, these days, about retooling our machinery for postwar production. Important as that is, there is another, and far more necessary, retooling job to be done. That is the job of retooling our modes of thinking about how to achieve postwar security and prosperity.—EDWARD G OLSON, Russell Sage College.

**PRAYER**

When things have got so out of control that you lose your balance, instead of praying to the Lord to stop work on all His affairs and do something for you—do this: *pray to yourself to do something for the Lord!*

And let that something be the very thing that is stumping you. Once you make up your mind to do what seems impossible, wonderful things will begin to happen.—DR THOS TAPPER, "Business is Prayer in Action," *Good Business*, 5-45.

**RACE—Negro**

A little colored girl, asked to name fitting punishment for Hitler, said, "Make him black and make him live in America."—EDWIN R EMBREE, "Balance Sheet in Race Relations," *Atlantic Monthly*, 5-45.

**RACE—Relations**

Children have the gift of solving things directly, easily, and sometimes brilliantly. They do not refer back to dubious standards and they ignore precedent. . . In Germantown (Pa) there are two schools, one predominantly colored, one predominantly white. The gangs of little boys from the two schools often play together. One day they invented a new game called Race Riot, but when they got assembled to play it, they discovered there were more white boys than colored boys. Clearly the thing was out of balance and unfair. What to do? Like a flash the children had the answer. The proper number of white boys promptly volunteered to play colored and the race riot proceeded with even numbers, in perfect equality. Adults, we feel, would have had the devil's own time with a situation like that.—*New Yorker*.



**CONFIDENTIALLY  
THRU A  
MEGAPHONE**

Probably ration points on butter will soon be reduced as stocks accumulate and we approach season of high productivity. But margarine will retain importance as a spread well into postwar period. Mfrs hope for permanent consumer acceptance in middle-class households. Margarine was developed by French chemist, Meges-Mouriez who, in 1870, won prize offered by Napoleon III for "a fat as appetizing, nutritious and stable as butter." Vegetable oils have now largely displaced oleo (animal fat) as basic substance, and flavor has been greatly improved. Practically all margarine is now Vitamin-A fortified (minimum for any fortified margarine is 9000 USP units Vitamin A per lb.) Laboratory experiments at U of S Calif indicate no nutritional difference between butter and margarine.

Statistically, our military losses have been overbalanced by increased number of births. In 3 war yrs a million more children have been born in U S than would have been expected if '41 birth rate had continued. . . Social workers are concerned lest sudden letdown in controls after VE-Day may result in new epidemic of venereal ills. . . Here's dramatic comparison in statistics: In '41 Travelers Aid gave assistance to 855,000 persons. In '44 the number was 36 million.

Transportation situation is becoming so acute that many insiders believe all state, regional and county fair may be banned this year. Most expect add'l gasoline now that end of European war has come, but tires and batteries will be tightest since war began.



**ADVERTISING:** Trend to color will be greatly accentuated postwar, particularly in newspaper field. Look for publishers to offer color "run of paper". In a few yrs even small dailies and better weeklies will have color facilities. New convertible newspaper press (R Hoe & Co) starts with one color, adds up to 3 add'l without being rebuilt.

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**AUTOMOBILE:** Mfrs are beginning to think about applying jet propulsion principle to auto engine. Simplicity is big appeal—greater horsepower with more economy. Ray Rausch, Ford sup't, points out that while auto men now shoot at weight of 5 lbs per hp, jet engine can give 3 hp per lb of weight.

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**HEATING:** "Liquid heat" (Tetra Cresyl Cilicate) may replace water for transfer of heat and cold. Water transports only small fraction of heat of fire because it becomes steam, evaporates at 212 degrees. New fluid can be heated to 800 degrees without evaporation. Can be transformed into liquid ice, too, as it doesn't freeze at 50 degrees below zero. Liquid heat could be piped to kitchen, eliminating gas, electricity, and would heat water in basement. With special radiators, liquid could be used yr around for heating or cooling homes.

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**PRODUCTS:** Coffee-flavored cigaret, known as *Coffeetone* introduced in limited sampling campaign. Production now 15 million daily, with demand considerably in excess. (*Fleming-Hall Co, N Y*)

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**SERVICES:** F A D ("Flower Air Del'y") is newest of alphabetical services. Idea of shipping perishable flowers by air express will be widely publicised postwar. (*Forbes*)

## RELIGION

Too many persons regard religion as a trolley car on which they ride only as long as it is going their way. —*Progressive Farmer*.

## RELIGION—Resistance to

In a famous ecclesiastical trial in Virginia, a number of yrs ago, it was said by someone that the preaching of the party on trial had no more effect than "pouring water on a duck's back." Quick as a flash the reply came: "Is that the fault of the water or the duck?" —*Earnest Worker*.

## RELIGION—Value Rec'd

He was an old fellow from a bushy, back road, regular in church attendance and regular in payment of his penny a Sunday. In those days a Canadian penny was of large size and it might be easily mistaken for a quarter or half-dollar. One Sunday the old chap dropped in a quarter by mistake.

He stared at the white and precious face of the quarter and asked the deacon, taking the collection, to have it back. He would then put in his usual amount.

"In once, in forever," the deacon commented.

"All right, all right then, I know what I'll do. I'll stay home for twenty-four Sundays!" —*Pulpit Digest*.

## RESENTMENT

A wise old Negro once said, "A chip on de shoulder is 'bout de heavies' load a body ever carries." —Roy L SMITH, "The High Cost of Resentment," *Christian Advocate*, 4-26-'45.

## SERVICE

Our immediate future as Americans may depend upon the living we make, but the future of America depends upon the life we live and the services we render. —Wm J H BOETCKER.

## SERVICE—Wartime

Just remember that the era of customer-be-damned won't last forever, and the day will come when

you will have a snappy comeback:

"Say, don't you know the war's over?" —DONALD A LAIRD, "The Help Is So Rude," *American Wkly*, 4-29-'45.

## SERVICEMEN—Ret'n

Carl Carmer, who has returned with other writers from a trip to England and the Continent, describes the behavior of a group of American fighter pilots, stationed in one half of a Belgian orphan asylum, who roared off grimly on their deadly missions and daily returned in a tearing hurry to play with the kids before they were put to bed. One of them said sharply, "Do you think that men who behave like that are going to turn into killers when they reach home?" —HARRISON SMITH, in editorial, "A Little Sanity, Please," *Sat Review of Literature*, 4-28-'45.

## SPEECH—Speaking

It was Mark Twain who said that it usually took him more than three wks to prepare a good "impromptu" speech. —*The Old Black Hen*.

## TACT—Lack

"Tact," said the lecturer, "is essential to good entertaining. I once dined at a house where the hostess had no tact. Opposite me was a modest, quiet man. Suddenly he turned red as a lobster on hearing his hostess say to her husband, 'How inattentive you are, Charlie! You must look after Mr Brown better. He's helping himself to everything.'" —*Labor Digest*.

## TAXES

Sign painted on NY bank bldg would have startled our grandfathers, but apparently goes unnoticed in this age of war taxes: "Remember Part of All You Earn Belongs to You." —*This Week*.

## YOUTH—Expression

We can report only the fascinating title of an essay which was being written in a school notebook this morning on a Van Cortlandt express. It was: "Do Adolescents Need Parents?" Age of the essayist: about 17. —*Pleasures of Publishing*, Columbia U Press.

## As it was in the Beginning . . .

In many respects the careers of FRED STONE and SOPHIE TUCKER parallel. Theirs was the Golden Age of vaudeville and musical comedy in these United States. Both led personal lives remarkably free of any taint of scandal. And, singularly enough, each is out this spring with an autobiography. Sophie calls her story *Some of These Days* (Doubleday, \$2.50) from a song phrase that has become her personal trade mark. Fred's history is titled, *Rolling Stone* (Whittlesey, \$2.75). Here the veterans relate how they "got a start" in show business.

I watched the tight-rope performer almost without breathing, following every move he made—until the spangles began to fall off his costume. After that, I climbed down from the wagon and walked under the rope, picking up the spangles as they fell. I took them home and rushed into the house.

"Mother," I asked anxiously, thrusting the spangles into her hands, "will you please sew some tights on these?"

"What on earth for?"

"I'm going to learn to walk a high wire."

Mother took a little red undershirt and a long pair of red stockings and sewed them together with some black velvet trunks, and she fastened the spangles all over the trunks, with a little row of them shining around the neck of the undershirt.

That night when my father came home I went to meet him in all my splendor. "Father," I asked, "will you stretch a rope for me in the back yard, so I can learn to walk it?"

"Sure," he said, "How high do you want it?"

"Oh, about as high as the fence—until I learn how."

Next morning I made my 1st attempt to walk the rope. I'd take a step or two and then fall off. It wouldn't surprise me if there were still dents in our yard where I landed over and over.

Of course all the boys in the neighborhood collected and had a fling at it themselves. After a few tumbles, they gave up. With a constant audience watching me practice, nothing could have made me quit. After a few days, I got the hang of it and walked all the way across. I've never felt so triumphant since over accomplishing a stunt. From then on, tight-rope walking was easy.—FRED STONE.

I used to try to think up ways of drawing more customers to our restaurant. I took to hanging around the stage doors of the theaters in our town, waiting for the actors to leave. I would go up to them and hold up one of our menus. "Follow me," I'd say, "and I'll take you where you can get the best meal in town for the least money."

When any of them turned up, I'd lay myself out to make them like it. That was how I started singing in the restaurant. None of our competitors offered entertainment with meals.

Going to shows taught me a lot of new songs. I would try them out on customers in Papa's restaurant, and at amateur concerts in Riverside Park. I was shy about going on the stage in the park. I was going on 13, and already I weighed 145 lbs. I was gawky and self-conscious. But Anna, who was pretty and dark, had a lovely singing voice. I didn't mind going on the stage to accompany her (with one finger). I thought, sitting on a piano stool, my size didn't matter.

Gradually, at the concerts I began to hear calls for "the fat girl." "Let the fat girl do her stuff," and "give us the fat girl." Then I would jump up from the piano stool, forgetting all about my size, and work to get all the laughs I could get. That was when I began to say to myself that maybe in show business size didn't matter if you could sing and could make people laugh.

That was what really started me thinking seriously about going in show business. I said to myself: suppose you could earn a living by singing and making people laugh, wouldn't that be better than spending your life drudging in a kitchen? I thought about Mama and the yrs she slaved at the stove and sink. I knew I would do anything to get away from that.—SOPHIE TUCKER.



GEMS FROM

Yesteryear

The Great Oz  
L. FRANK BAUM

LYMAN FRANK BAUM was born in May 1856, died in May 1919. His was perhaps the 1st attempt to construct a fairyland out of American materials. As editor of a trade journal for window dressers, Baum needed more money for his growing family. So he wrote *The Wizard of Oz* in 1900. It became a great success and in 1901 was made into a musical extravaganza starring Fred Stone. Other Oz books followed. In this excerpt, the humbug Oz, having pretended to provide brains for the Scarecrow and a heart for the Tin Woodman, turns to the Cowardly Lion.

"I have come for my courage," announced the Lion.

"Very well," ans'd Oz, "I will get it for you." He went to a cupboard, took down a bottle and poured the contents into a dish. Placing this before the Cowardly Lion, the Wizard said: "Drink."

"What is it?" asked the Lion.

"Well," ans'd Oz, "if it were inside you, it would be courage. You know that courage is always inside you; so that this really cannot be called courage until you have swallowed it."

The Lion drank.

"How do you feel now?" asked Oz.

"Full of courage," replied the Lion, who went joyfully back to tell his friends of his good fortune.

Oz, left to himself, smiled to think of his success in giving them all what they thought they wanted. "How can I help being a humbug," he said, "when all these people make me do things that everybody knows can't be done? It was easy to make them all happy because they imagined I could do anything."

Hoping to escape the draft, he showed up for his physical exam wearing a borrowed truss, and told the examining surgeon he had been wearing it for 15 yrs.

"Hm," mused the doctor, "that ought to put you in 6-F." The dodger wanted to know the meaning of the term.

"It means," replied the surgeon, "that in 6 weeks you'll probably be in France. Next time try wearing your truss right side up!"—*Medical Economics*.

" "

A British tourist who journeyed from Cairo to the Pyramids, felt sure he had reached the land where Occidental life is utterly unknown and nothing savoring of Western civilization would be allowed to disturb the Arabian Nights atmosphere. When he reached the pyramids and was hoisted to a camel by an exceedingly picturesque Arab he quivered with delight. "What's your camel's name?" he asked the Arab.

"Hedy Lamarr," was the answer. —*Capper's Wkly.*



## OF THE WEEK

Allied victory has reached the Berlin point.—*Pillbox.*

" "

If and when the meek inherit the earth they will inherit sufficient debt to keep them that way.—*Grit.*

" "

INTUITION: that gift which enables a woman to arrive instantly at an infallible and irrevocable decision without the aid of reason, judgment or discussion.—*Corsair.*

" "

CONVALESCENT: a patient who is still alive.

## GOOD STORIES YOU CAN USE

### I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

AGNES SMEDLEY

Author, *Battle Hymn of China*

On the run from New York to Boston there is a trainman who has his own way of interpreting the celebrated Boston book bans. Recently, calling stations as usual, he swung the door open between two cars and bawled out: "We've just passed the state line into Mass; everybody stop reading!"

Tommy had a charming and personable manner, which he exercised with telling effect upon little Mary, who sat next to him in school. Unfortunately, he was an indifferent student.

Observing the attraction between the two youngsters, the teacher devised a subtle appeal to Tommy's ambition.

"Tommy," she warned, "you must study harder or you won't be promoted. How would you like to have to stay in this class and have little Mary go ahead of you?"

"Well," said Tommy philosophically, "I guess there'll be other little Marys."—*Reader's Scoop.*

A Chinese visitor says: "Funny people, you Americans. You take a glass, put in sugar to make it sweet and lemon to make it sour. You put in gin to warm you up and ice to keep you cool. You say, 'Here's to you!' and then you drink it yourself."—*Jobber Topics.*

" "

An English soldier in a French village, seeing a wedding in process at a church, asked a Frenchman whose wedding it was.

"Je ne sais pas, M'sieu," ans'd the Frenchman.

A few hrs later the same soldier saw a coffin going into the same church, and, curiosity getting the better of him, he again asked the identity of the individual.

"Je ne sais pas," was the response.

"Blimey!" ejaculated the Tommy, "he didn't last long!"—*Woman.*

" "

There is much humorous rivalry between the Marines and the Seabees. At one post, the Marines put up a sign, "Seabees under 55 not admitted." The next day Marines faced a sign which said: "Any Marine with 4 yrs' service can apply to be a junior Seabee."—*RAYMOND CLAPPER.*



